

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A lifting device comprising:  
~~a top part and a bottom part;~~  
a patient support; and  
a base plate;  
a lifting linkage that connects the patient support to the base plate and  
has at least two sub-linkages connected to one another via a central articulation,  
and  
a drive unit that is operable to adjust the height of the patient support  
~~top part~~, and act on the central articulation.
2. (withdrawn) The lifting device as claimed in claim 1, in that the drive  
unit has a spindle, which is fastened on the central articulation and a motor.
3. (withdrawn) The lifting device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the  
spindle is a trapezoidal spindle.
4. (withdrawn) The lifting device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the motor  
is fastened on the bottom part.
5. (withdrawn) The lifting device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the motor  
is fastened on the central articulation.
6. (currently amended) The lifting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein  
the sub-linkage is connected to the base plate ~~bottom part~~ in an articulated manner  
by front scissors feet and is fastened on the base plate ~~bottom part~~ by rear scissors  
feet such that the sub-linkage runs over the base plate ~~bottom part~~ when the height  
of the patient support ~~top part~~ is adjusted.

7. – 8. (cancelled)

9. (withdrawn) The lifting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the central articulation moves rectilinearly.

10. (previously presented) The lifting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of the at least two sub-linkages connected to the bottom part.

11. (previously presented) The lifting device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the one of the at least two sub-linkages comprises front feet fastened on the bottom part and rear scissor feet that are operable to slide over the bottom part when the height of the top part is adjusted.

12. (previously presented) A lifting device comprising:  
a top part and a bottom part,  
a lifting linkage that connects the top part to the bottom part and has at least two sub-linkages connected to one another via a central articulation, and  
a drive unit that is operable to adjust the height of the top part, and act on the central articulation.

13. (withdrawn) The lifting device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the at least two sub-linkages have a scissors structure.

14. (withdrawn) The lifting device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the drive unit is operable to move the central articulation in the vertical direction.

15. (withdrawn) The lifting device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the drive unit has a spindle, which is fastened on the central articulation, and a motor.

16. (withdrawn) The lifting device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the spindle is a trapezoidal spindle.

17. (withdrawn) The lifting device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the motor is fastened on the bottom part.

18. (withdrawn) The lifting device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the central articulation moves rectilinearly.

19. (previously presented) The lifting device as claimed in claim 12, wherein one of the at least two sub-linkages is connected to the bottom part.

20. (previously presented) The lifting device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the one of the at least two sub-linkages comprises front feet fastened on the bottom part and rear scissor feet that are operable to slide over the bottom part when the height of the top part is adjusted.